

The Tragedie of Hamlet

Ham. The body is with the King, but the King is not with the body. The King is a thing.

Guy. A thing my Lord.

Ham. Of nothing, bring me to him.

Exeunt.

Enter King, and two or three.

King. I haue sent to seek him, and to find the body,
How dangerous is it that this man goes loose,
Yet must not we put the strong Law on him,
Hee's lou'd of the distracted multitude,
Who like not in their iudgement, but their eyes,
And where tis so, th'offenders scourge is wayed
But neuer the offence: to beare all smooth and euen,
This suddaine sending him away must seem
Deliberate pause, diseases desperate growne,
By desperate applyance are relieu'd
Or not at all.

Enter Rosencrans and all the rest.

King. How now, what hath befallne?

Ros. Where the dead body is bestow'd my Lord
We cannot get from him.

King. But where is he?

Ros. Without my Lord, guarded to know your pleasure.

King. Bring him before vs.

Ros. Hee, bring in the Lord.

They Enter.

King. Now Hamlet, where's Polonius?

Ham. At supper.

King. At supper where?

Ha. Not where he eates, but where he is eaten, a certain conuocation of politick worms are e'en at him: your worme is your only Emperour for dyer, we fat all creatures else to fat vs, and we fat our selues for maggots, your fat King & your leane Beggar is but variable seruice, two dishes but to one table, that's the end.

King. Alasse, alasse.

Ham. A man may fish with the worme that hath eat of a King, eat of the fish that hath fed of that worme.

King. What dost thou meane by this?

Ham. Nothing but to shew you how a King may go a progresse

Prince of Denmark

gresse through the guttes of

King. Where is Polonius?

Ham. In heauen, send them not there, seeke him i'th other world, find him not within this month, the staires into the Lobby.

King. Go seek him there.

Ham. A will stay till you come.

King. Hamlet this deed for which we doe tender, as we doe for that which thou hast done, Therefore prepare thy selfe; The Barke is readie, and the Th'affotians tend, and euery For England.

Ham. For England.

King. I Hamlet.

Ham. Good.

King. So is it if thou knewest.

Ham. I see a Cherub that is pale with farewell deere mother.

King. Thy louing father.

Ham. My mother, father, Man and wife is one flesh, so I will come for England.

King. Follow him at foot, Tempt him with speed about the world, Delay it not, I'll haue him hither, Away, for euery thing is seal'd, That els leanes on the affaire, And England if my loue thou knowest, As my great power thereof, Since yet thy Cicatrice lookes fresh, After the Danish Sword, and Paies homage to vs, thou must Our Soueraigne processe, with By letters congruing to that, The present death of Hamlet, For like the Hedick in my b